## Message Text

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17

ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 AID-05 VOE-00 SCA-01

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R 220523Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1557

**UNCLAS BANGKOK 19826** 

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF (NOP THANA; NOP KONTHEA)

SUBJ: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES - CASE OF RAMING SREY RELATIVES

REF: A. STATE 212983 B. BANGKOK 19409

1. FURTHER TO REFTELS, REFUGEE OFFICER SPOKE TO VIRAT VOGDI ON SEPTEMBER 17. VIRAT STATED THAT HE BROUGHT THANA AND KONTHEA NOP FROM CAMBODIA INTO THAILAND IN APRIL BY CLAIMING THEY WERE HIS DAUGHTERS, AND THAI CITIZENS, AS IS HE. THIS WAS ARRANGED, HE SAID, THROUGH CHANA SAMUDHAMAVICHJA, FORMER THAI AMBASSADOR TO CAMBODIA, WHO HAS TAKEN CHARGE OF THE CHILDREN AT THEIR PARENTS REQUEST. VIRAT ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE CHILDREN HAVE RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM THE THAI GOVERNMENT TO REMAIN PERMANENTLY IN THAILAND, AND BE NATURALIZED AS THAIS. THIS COURSE, HE INDICATED, IS IN ACCORD WITH HIS WISHES AND THOSE OF CHANA AND THE CHILDREN'S PARENTS. HE ALSO SAID THIS MATTER HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH BONY SREY (MRS. RAMING SREY). THE NOP SISTERS HAVE NOT BEEN PROCESSED FOR PAROLE.

2. VIRAT SAID THAT RAMING SREY IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS. IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER MRS. RAMING SREY HAS THE U.S. CITIZEN, PERMANENT RESIDENT, OR REFUGEE STATUS PREREQUISITED TO HER SISTER'S ELIGIBILITY FOR PRIORITY I PAROLE, EVEN IF THEY HAD NOT APPARENTLY BEEN ACCEPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT HERE. UNCLASSIFIED

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- 3. THE NOP SISTERS, BOTH UNDER 16, MIGHT QUALIFY FOR NONPREFERENCE QUOTA VISAS.
- 4. ACTION IN THIS CASE DEPENDS ON RESOLUTION OF CUSTODY OF CHILDREN BY INTERESTED PARTIES. MASTERS  $\,$

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Event:
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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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TAGS: SREF, TH, (NOP THANA), (NOP KONTHEA)
To: STATE

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